

REMARKS

In response to the pending Office Action, Applicants have amended claims 4 and 11 so as to overcome the objection thereof. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for bringing this typographical error to their attention.

With regard to the prior art rejections, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending rejections for the reasons set forth below. It is noted that each of the pending rejections are based in part on USP Pub. No. 2005/0258940 to Quan. However, for the following reasons Quan does not qualify as valid prior art to the instant application. Quan has an effective filing date of May 18, 2004 for prior art purposes. The instant application has an effective filing date of April 15, 2004 based on the claim of priority to JP 2004-120168. A certified translation of the priority document is being filed concurrently herewith in order to perfect the claim of priority. Thus, as the effective filing date of the instant application precedes the effective prior art date of Quan, Quan does not qualify as prior art to the instant application. As such, the pending rejections must be withdrawn.

Having fully and completely responded to all open issues on the pending Office Action, Applicants submit that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance, an indication of which is respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper,

including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: July 1, 2010